

Federal Maritime Commission

§ 535.605

(2) Should the agreement be refiled, the full waiting period must be observed.

[49 FR 45351, Nov. 15, 1984, as amended at 61 FR 11576, Mar. 21, 1996]

§ 535.602 Federal Register notice.

(a) With the exception of marine terminal facilities agreements, as defined in § 535.311(a), a notice of any filed agreement which is not rejected pursuant to § 535.601 will be transmitted to the FEDERAL REGISTER within seven days of the date of filing.

(b) The notice will include:

(1) A short title for the agreement;

(2) The identity of the parties to the agreement and the filing party;

(3) The Federal Maritime Commission agreement number;

(4) A concise summary of the agreement's contents;

(5) A statement that the agreement is available for inspection at the Commission's offices; and

(6) The final date for filing comments regarding the agreement.

[49 FR 45351, Nov. 15, 1984, as amended at 58 FR 5631, Jan. 22, 1993]

§ 535.603 Comment.

(a) Persons may file with the Secretary written comments regarding a filed agreement. Such comments will be submitted in an original and ten (10) copies and are not subject to any limitations except the time limits provided in the FEDERAL REGISTER notice. Late-filed comments will be received only by leave of the Commission and only upon a showing of good cause. If requested, comments and any accompanying material shall be accorded confidential treatment to the fullest extent permitted by law. Such requests must include a statement of legal basis for confidential treatment including the citation of appropriate statutory authority. Where a determination is made to disclose all or a portion of a comment, notwithstanding a request for confidentiality, the party requesting confidentiality will be notified prior to disclosure.

(b) The filing of a comment does not entitle a person to: (1) reply to the comment by the Commission; (2) the institution of any Commission or court

proceeding; (3) discussion of the comment in any Commission or court proceeding concerning the filed agreement; or (4) participation in any proceeding which may be instituted.

[49 FR 45351, Nov. 15, 1984, as amended at 57 FR 40619, Sept. 4, 1992]

§ 535.604 Waiting period.

(a) The waiting period before an agreement becomes effective shall commence on the date that an agreement is filed with the Commission.

(b) Unless suspended by a request for additional information or extended by court order, the waiting period terminates and an agreement becomes effective on the latter of the 45th day after the filing of the agreement with the Commission or on the 30th day after publication of notice of the filing in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(c) The waiting period is suspended on the date when the Commission, either orally or in writing, requests additional information or documentary materials pursuant to section 6(d) of the Act. The waiting period resumes on the date of receipt of the additional material or of a statement of the reasons for noncompliance, and the agreement becomes effective in 45 days unless the waiting period is further extended by court order.

§ 535.605 Requests for expedited approval.

(a) Upon written request of the filing party, the Commission may shorten the review period. Accompanying the request, the filing party should provide a full explanation, with reference to specific facts and circumstances, of the necessity for a shortened waiting period. If the Commission decides to approve an abbreviated waiting period, the term will be decided after consideration of the parties' needs and the Commission's ability to perform its review functions under a reduced time schedule. In no event, however, may the period be shortened to less than fourteen days after the publication of the notice of the filing of the agreement in the FEDERAL REGISTER. When a request for expedited approval is denied by the Commission, the normal waiting period specified in § 535.604 will apply. Such expedition will not be

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granted routinely and will be granted only in exceptional circumstances which include but are not limited to: the impending expiration of the agreement; operational urgency; Federal or State imposed time limitations; or other reasons which, in the Commission's discretion, constitute grounds for granting the request.

(b) A request for expedited approval will be considered for an agreement whose waiting period has resumed after having been suspended by a request for additional information.

[49 FR 45351, Nov. 15, 1984, as amended at 50 FR 16704, Apr. 29, 1985]

§ 535.606 Requests for additional information.

(a) The Commission may request from the filing party any additional information and documentary material necessary to complete the statutory review required by section 6 of the Act. The request shall be made prior to the expiration of the waiting period. All additional information and documentary material shall be submitted to the Director, Bureau of Economics and Agreement Analysis, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573. If the request is not fully complied with, a statement of reasons for noncompliance shall be provided for each item or portion of such request which is not fully answered.

(b) Where the Commission has made a request for additional information material, the agreement's effective date is 45 days after receipt of the additional material. In the event all material is not submitted, the agreement's effective date will be 45 days after receipt of both the documents and information which are submitted, if any, and the statement indicating the reasons for noncompliance. The Commission may, upon notice to the Attorney General, and pursuant to sections 6(i) and 6(k) of the Act, request the United States District Court for the District of Columbia to further extend the agreement's effective date until there has been substantial compliance.

(c) A request for additional information may be made orally or in writing. In the case of an oral request, a written confirmation of the request shall be

mailed to the filing party within seven days of the communication.

(d) The party upon whom a request for additional information is made will have a reasonable time to respond, as specified by the Commission. The test of reasonableness shall be based on the particular circumstances of the request and shall be determined on a case-by-case basis.

(e) Notice that a request for additional information has been made will be published by the Commission and served on commenting parties. Such notice will indicate only that a request has been made and will not specify what information is being sought. Within fifteen (15) days following service of the notice, further comments on the agreement may be filed.

[49 FR 45351, Nov. 15, 1984, as amended at 59 FR 67230, Dec. 29, 1994]

§ 535.607 Failure to comply with requests for additional information.

(a) A failure to comply with a request for additional information results when a person filing an agreement, or an officer, director, partner, agent, or employee thereof fails to substantially respond to the request or does not file a satisfactory statement of reasons for noncompliance. An adequate response is one which directly addresses the Commission's request. When a response is not received by the Commission within a specified time, failure to comply will have occurred.

(b) The Commission may, pursuant to section 6(i) of the Act, request relief from the United States District Court for the District of Columbia when it considers that there has been a failure to substantially comply with a request for additional information. The Commission may request that the court:

(1) Order compliance with the request; and

(2) At its discretion, grant other equitable relief which under the circumstances seems necessary or appropriate.

(c) Where there has been a failure to substantially comply, section 6(i)(2) of the Act provides that the court shall extend the review period until there has been substantial compliance.